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NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark
Office
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 24 November 1999 (24.11.99)	
International application No. PCT/EP99/02102	Applicant's or agent's file reference JIM/G03350 PC
International filing date (day/month/year) 29 March 1999 (29.03.99)	Priority date (day/month/year) 30 March 1998 (30.03.98)
Applicant TOPSOE, Martin et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

12 October 1999 (12.10.99)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election ☒ was☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer A. Karkachi
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JIM/G03350 PC	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/EP 99/ 02102	International filing date (day/month/year) 29/03/1999	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 30/03/1998
Applicant DANIONICS A/S et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 2 sheets.

☒ it is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

METHOD OF MAKING POLYMER ELECTROLYTE ELECTROCHEMICAL CELLS

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/02102

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 H01M6/22 H01M6/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 H01M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 681 357 A (ESCHBACH FLORENCE O ET AL) 28 October 1997 (1997-10-28) column 4, line 55 - column 5, line 12; claims 13-15,19,20,22 -----	1,2,5,8, 12-14,17
A	GB 2 260 137 A (BRITISH TECH GROUP) 7 April 1993 (1993-04-07) claims 1,4,14 -----	1,2
X	US 5 688 293 A (ESCHBACH FLORENCE O ET AL) 18 November 1997 (1997-11-18) column 3, line 8 - line 20; claims 1,4; example 2 -----	17
A		1,2,5,8, 12,15

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
 "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
 "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
 "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
 "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
 "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
 "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
 "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 August 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

30/08/1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Authorized officer

Andrews, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/02102

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5681357 A	28-10-1997	WO 9812766 A	26-03-1998
GB 2260137 A	07-04-1993	CA 2115654 A	15-04-1993
		EP 0606293 A	20-07-1994
		WO 9307626 A	15-04-1993
		JP 5504089 T	01-07-1993
		JP 6511595 T	22-12-1994
		US 5460903 A	24-10-1995
		US 5639574 A	17-06-1997
US 5688293 A	18-11-1997	WO 9743795 A	20-11-1997

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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REC'D	06 APR 2000
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JIM/LJ/G03350 PC	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP99/02102	International filing date (day/month/year) 29/03/1999	Priority date (day/month/year) 30/03/1998
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01M6/22		
Applicant DANIONICS A/S et al.		



1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report
II	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority
III	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention
V	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
VI	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited
VII	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application
VIII	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 12/10/1999	Date of completion of this report 04.04.2000
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer Del Piero, G Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8579 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP99/02102

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (*substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.*):

Description, pages:

1-17 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-17 as originally filed

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
☐ the claims, Nos.:
☐ the drawings, sheets:

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-17
	No:	Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-17
	No:	Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-17
	No:	Claims	

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP99/02102

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

V.

The present subject-matter would not seem to be disclosed in nor fairly derivable from any of the citations from the International Search Report.

Concerning the present method, the acknowledgment of an inventive step over US-A-5 681 357 is based on the possibility of causing the in-situ gelling of the precursor which has been previously incorporated into the cell in the dissolved state at a temperature sufficient to cause dissolution but not gelling.

This enables the polymer to be evenly distributed throughout the cell.

US'357 teaches coating the gelling polymer as a layer onto the electrodes and/or separator prior to introducing the electrolyte/solvent into the cell, but does not realise that the polymer can be distributed within the cell by a process involving a first heating step (dissolving but not gelling), a cooling step (avoiding evaporation of the solvent) and an in-situ gelling step (after incorporation into the cell) at a temperature higher than the dissolution temperature.

Concerning the present electrochemical cell, novelty and inventive step are provided by the mode of distribution of the gelling polymer achieved by the present method.

VIII.

Claim 17: the expression "claims 1 to 17" should read "claims 1 to 16".